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Approved For Release 2004/12/22 : CIA-RDP89B00552R000800070034-8

SP - 5/7/74
5 April 1974

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Need for Projections in NIEs (NIE 11-8-73 As An Example)

25X1A

Record of telephone conversation this date between [redacted]
(NIO/SP) and [redacted] (Director, State/INR).

Questions (by [redacted]):

1. Requirement for quantitative future projections in summary?
2. Requirement for details in NIE itself?
3. Requirement for a "best estimate"?

Answers (by [redacted]):

1. Quantitative projections needed in estimates but should be kept general in short conclusions of estimates.
2. Needed at national level. State does not believe DIPP should be regarded as national.
3. Details are needed to back up conclusions. Needed at same time as estimate issued--in supporting Annex.
4. This year's 11-8 should have had abbreviated representation of future projections in short estimate.
 - a. INR had to pull projections out of supporting annex to flesh out skimpy treatment of future forces in summary estimate when it briefed its consumers.
 - b. Needed back-up details to answer questions.
 - c. Needed to participate in working up the projections to understand and explain them.
5. State would prefer "best estimates"--alternatives are mindboggling and consumer then asks which is most likely.

[redacted]
National Intelligence Officer
for Strategic Programs

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SP - 37/74

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NIO/SP:HStoertz:mat (8Apr74)

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